



# University of Hawaii at Manoa

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## HB 1142 RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Statement for  
House Committee on  
Planning, Energy and Environmental Protection  
Public Hearing - February 23, 1989

By  
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HB 1142 proposes to amend Hawaii Revised Statutes adding the Office of Environmental Quality Control to the list of those adjudged aggrieved with regard to the initiation of judicial proceedings as to whether or not an Environmental Impact Statement is required and in questions regarding the acceptance of an Environmental Impact Statement under Section 343-5.

Our statement on this bill does not represent an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

The amendment proposed in Section 1, paragraph (b) would permit the office to bring judicial action in the same manner as is presently granted to the Environmental Council with regard to the determination that a statement is or is not required under 343-3 and in paragraph (c) on the acceptance of a statement required under 343-5.

We strongly support the intent of HB 1142. Inclusion of the Office of Environmental Quality Control as an aggrieved party should serve to encourage interagency coordination with OEQC on environmental management issues prior to decision making. It will similarly encourage OEQC to take a more active role in responding to and assisting in an advisory capacity to agencies and their environmental review needs on a timely basis. Because the council meets only once per month, such coordination and advice is not so readily available and generally cannot be provided in as timely a manner.